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S/1994/1438
22 December 1994

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NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Security Council the attached communication which he has received from the Acting Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

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Annex

Letter dated 16 December 1994 from the Acting Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency addressed to the Secretary-General

In its resolution 699 (1991) of 17 June 1991, the Security Council requests, inter alia, the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council progress reports on the implementation of the plan for the destruction, removal or rendering harmless of the items specified in paragraph 12 of resolution 687 (1991). Such reports are to be submitted every six months after the adoption of resolution 699 (1991). The next report is therefore due on 17 December 1994.

Please find attached an outline of the activities carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency during the past six months under the plan for destruction, removal or rendering harmless, which you might find useful for the preparation of your report.

(Signed) Boris SEMENOV
Acting Director General

Appendix

Seventh semi-annual report (covering the period from 18 June to 17 December 1994) on the implementation by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the plan for the destruction, removal or rendering harmless of items listed in paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991)

INTRODUCTION

1. By resolution 699 (1991) of 17 June 1991, the Security Council approved the plan submitted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), through the Secretary-General, for the destruction, removal or rendering harmless of all items listed in paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991). Resolution 699 (1991) also called for the Secretary-General to submit every six months a progress report on the implementation of the plan.

2. The first six reports were circulated by the Secretary-General to the members of the Security Council in document S/23295, dated 17 December 1991; S/24110, dated 17 June 1992; S/24988, dated 17 December 1992; S/25983, dated 21 June 1993; S/26897, dated 20 December 1993; and S/1994/793, dated 5 July 1994.

3. This is the seventh semi-annual report on the implementation by IAEA of the plan for destruction, removal or rendering harmless covering the period from 18 June to 17 December 1994. During this period, IAEA, with the assistance and cooperation of the Special Commission of the United Nations, conducted three on-site inspections in Iraq (IAEA/25, IAEA/26 and IAEA/27). Detailed reports of IAEA/25 and IAEA/26 have been distributed to the Security Council in documents S/1994/1001, dated 26 August 1994, and S/1994/1206, dated 22 October 1994. The report of IAEA/27 is in preparation.

4. In addition, as from August 1994, IAEA has established a continuous presence in Iraq as an element of its plan for ongoing monitoring and verification of Iraq's compliance with relevant Security Council resolutions. IAEA will include in its semi-annual reports on the implementation of the plan summaries of the inspection activities being carried out by IAEA under the plan.

PRESENT STATUS

5. As of 17 December 1994, IAEA has carried out 27 inspection missions in Iraq. In the course of those inspections, IAEA has been able to destroy, render harmless or remove from Iraq all items which have been located and identified as associated with Iraq's clandestine nuclear weapons programme. Should IAEA uncover any additional items not previously discovered or declared which are subject to such destruction, rendering harmless or removal from Iraq, IAEA will carry out such activities.

NUCLEAR MATERIAL

6. As previously reported to the Security Council, the task of removing all special fissionable material from Iraq has been completed with the removal of the remaining spent fuel to the Russian Federation under contract with the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy (MINATOM). As provided for in the contract, MINATOM has reprocessed the spent fuel and downgraded the content of the U-235 isotope to slightly below 20 per cent. The recovered material, amounting to a total quantity of 141 kilograms of uranium (metal equivalent), with an average enrichment of 19.8± 0.15 per cent in U-235 isotope, was shipped from the Mayak reprocessing plant to the designated storage site at Electrostal, where it arrived on 6 December 1994. On 14 and 15 December 1994, IAEA safeguards inspectors visited Electrostal to verify the material and take samples for analysis. In order to complete its contractual obligations, MINATOM will now proceed with the conditioning - through vitrification - of the radioactive wastes, including small amounts of plutonium, resulting from the reprocessing of the Iraqi fuel and to the permanent disposal of the conditioned waste in the final repository at Mayak. It is expected that this operation will be completed by March 1995.

7. With the assistance of the Brazilian authorities, IAEA has finished its verification of the completeness and has assessed the correctness of the information provided by the Iraqi authorities regarding the amount of natural uranium oxide of Brazilian origin exported to Iraq.

8. All of the nuclear material remaining in Iraq, which consists of low enriched, natural and depleted uranium, has been consolidated in one site (Location C) and will continue to be monitored by IAEA.

RELEASE OF MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT

9. In response to a request by Iraq, IAEA, in consultation with the Special Commission, agreed to the release of several hundred tons of shielding lead for use in lead-acid battery production. As this lead is to be recovered from equipment associated with Iraq's hot cells, utilized in the building 22 (LAMA Laboratories) at Tuwaitha, its continued non-proscribed use will be subject to Agency monitoring. Accordingly, IAEA's agreement to the release of the shielded cells was granted subject to the following conditions: the dismantling of the cells will be verified by IAEA; the viewing windows of the hot cells are to be stored in Tuwaitha/Al Shakili and kept available for ongoing monitoring; the lead blocks are to be moved to the Falluja factory under IAEA supervision; the melting of the lead is to be verified by IAEA; and periodic visits will be made by IAEA to the battery factory at which the lead is to be utilized.

10. A second Iraqi request, concerning the release of conventional chemical equipment to be salvaged from the destroyed Al Qaim yellow cake production plant, was disposed of in September 1994 in consultation with the Special Commission. While authorizing the release, IAEA has reserved its full right to verify the use of the equipment as part of its monitoring and verification activity.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXPORT/IMPORT MONITORING MECHANISM

11. As provided for in Security Council resolution 715 (1991), IAEA, the Special Commission and the Security Council Committee established under resolution 661 (1990) are developing for the approval of the Security Council a mechanism for monitoring any future sales or supplies by other countries to Iraq of items relevant to the implementation of section C of resolution 687 (1991) and other relevant resolutions, and the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification approved under resolution 715 (1991). As a part of this exercise, IAEA is in the process of revising annex 3 of its plan, with a view to establishing a single list of items subject to reporting by Iraq and subject, at the same time, to reporting under the export/import mechanism by suppliers to Iraq.

FUTURE ACTIONS

12. Verification of the correctness and assessment of the completeness of the list updates of items submitted by the Iraqi authorities pursuant to annex 3 of the plan for ongoing monitoring and verification will continue.

13. Consultations with the Special Commission concerning additional Iraqi requests for the release of dual-use equipment and materials will also continue.

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LETTER DATED 21 DECEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I am writing to you concerning the letter dated 16 December 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) addressed to the Secretary-General (S/1994/1426, annex). Upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to state the following.

The newspaper reports and interviews concerning alleged arms shipments to Bosnia and Herzegovina, as published in the Turkish daily Hürriyet of 4 December and Sabah and Gün of 5 December, have been fully and publicly denied by the Turkish authorities. Such claims are unfounded and do not reflect the facts. Turkey complies fully with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the former Yugoslavia.

However, like many other countries, we have also been continuously emphasizing the inalienable right to self-defence of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations and, in that context, we have been calling for the lifting of the arms embargo in favour of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On the other hand, there are serious indications that armaments, military assistance and logistical support are being provided to the Serbs, which enable them to continue their aggression. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should be held accountable for these violations.

The Turkish contingent, which was deployed in Zenica, has been carrying out its mission successfully under the authority of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). Its presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina and its strict impartiality in fulfilling its tasks have been recognized and appreciated by the international community as well as by the Bosnian peoples.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should, therefore, be advised to refrain from attempts to undermine the task being carried out by UNPROFOR in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It should act in a constructive manner vis-à-vis UNPROFOR and the Turkish contingent, which is a successful component of UNPROFOR.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should exert every pressure on the Bosnian Serbs to accept the Five-Nation Contact Group Peace Plan unconditionally and to support the multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious character and sovereignty of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. A convincing expression of such a will on the part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) would be the recognition of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders. We would also like to recall that the Federation established by the Washington Agreements is open to the participation of the Bosnian Serbs.

Turkey expects from all States strict compliance with all the relevant Security Council resolutions on Bosnia and Herzegovina. We will continue to seek full implementation of these resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been asked to convey to you the following by Mr. Alija Izetbegović, President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mr. Yasushi Akashi, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, came to see President Izetbegović this morning. The major basis of his visit was to seek the demilitarization of the Bihać and potentially other safe areas. President Izetbegović offered that we would be willing to consider this on a case-by-case basis as long as the United Nations and other relevant forces were willing and in a position to guarantee the safety and defence of the safe areas in question.

Mr. Akashi indicated that they were not in a position to undertake this responsibility, but that any attack upon the safe areas would be condemned in the strongest terms by the international community. President Izetbegović responded that the Government had the responsibility to defend the territorial integrity, sovereignty and population of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including the safe areas, and that we were not prepared to consider relinquishing this responsibility unless the United Nations and other relevant forces were willing and in a position to assume such responsibility.

May I ask for your kind assistance in distributing the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

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